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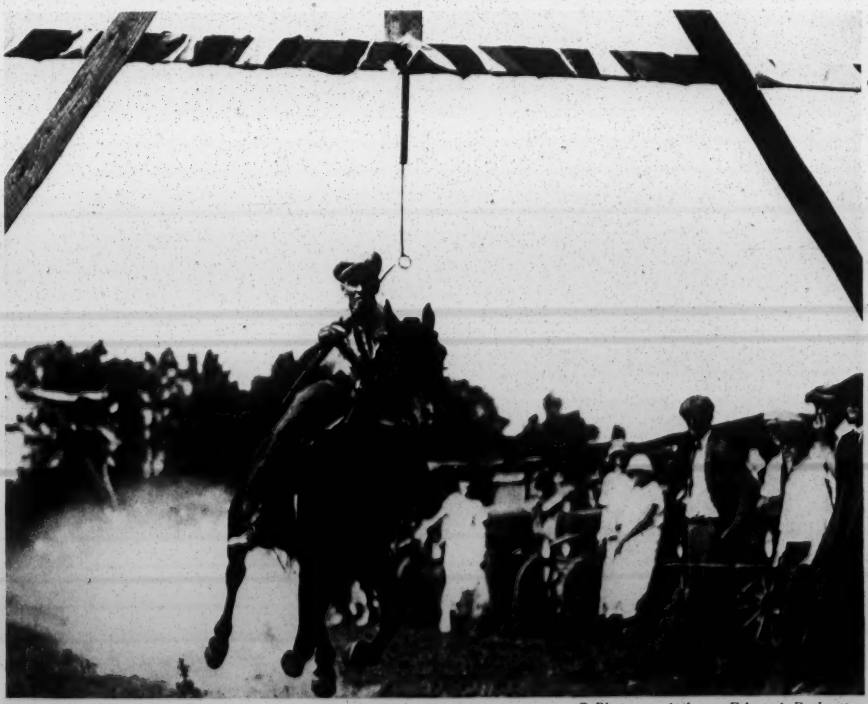
Contents for Week of December 19, 1932. Vol. XI. No. 23.

1. Toy Fair Sets Stage for the Paris Christmas.
2. Minya Konka, Snow-Clad Giant of the China-Tibet Borderland.
3. Three Hundred Years of Maryland's Charter.
4. The Lakes of Killarney, Ireland's Most Famed Beauty Spot.
5. Too Much Water Halts Panama Canal Traffic.



© Photograph from Edward Padgett

AN ANCIENT SPORT SURVIVES IN MARYLAND

Armor and mail are lacking, but this modern knight, jousting in Herring Creek Parish, recalls the gallant tournaments of ancient English times. Maryland this month is observing the 300th Anniversary of the signing of its charter by the English King, Charles I (See Bulletin No. 3.)

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Toy Fair Sets Stage for the Paris Christmas

TOYS from fourteen nations were displayed at the International Toy Carnival held in New York City recently. Proceeds from the sale of tickets of admission went to aid the music settlements of the city.

While such a carnival is something of a novelty in this country, a toy fair is an annual event each autumn in Paris, eagerly awaited by thousands upon thousands of youthful Parisians.

Business as Well as Fun

Not all the spectators that stroll among the booths of Paris' Lépine Toy Exhibition, however, are youngsters out to be amused. Rubbing elbows with them are grave merchants in search of likely merchandise, and parents and guardians on the alert for ideas to pass on to good Saint Nicholas, the French original of America's "Santa Claus."

The fair is characteristic of Paris, for, although that city is a playground of the adult world, it devotes serious consideration to the amusement of its children.

Paris has given untold thought to the originality of the toys with which young Edouard and Jeanne while away the indoor hours. It was a former chief of police, M. Louis Lépine, who was responsible for the first Toy Exhibition.

Like all Frenchmen, a lover of children, M. Lépine resolved to investigate complaints that toys had deteriorated. After official gazings into shop windows, the Chief of Police declared that the toys were poor winter substitutes for the outdoor diversions which Paris provides in the summer. He issued a circular to toy manufacturers announcing an annual Toy Exhibition, stating that prizes and diplomas would be awarded to the manufacturers displaying the greatest originality in their work.

Held on Champs-de-Mars

The response was tremendous, and the first show an outstanding success. That was thirty-three years ago. To-day the Lépine Exhibition has become a state institution with a definite place in the fall calendar of events. It takes place on the Champs-de-Mars, laid out about 1770 as a drill ground for the Ecole Militaire. It is now a park, in the shadow of the lofty Eiffel Tower.

Prizes from the President and from the Presidents of the Chamber and Senate, prizes from the Judges of the Paris Law Courts, and more prizes from scientists, literary men and leading newspapers induce the originators of toys to do their utmost for the highly esteemed younger generation.

Thirty years have passed since the busy chief of Paris police laid aside problems of crime long enough to insure superior toys for his young charges. But the tradition persists, and children continue to be an important element in the city's life.

The Champs Elysées, famous avenue extending from the Place de la Concorde to the Arc de Triomphe, is literally the Elysian Fields of the little ones. Their particular paradise comprises the gardens between the main road and the Elysée, where diverting playthings of infinite variety have been provided by a child-conscious city.

Merry-go-rounds turned by hand attract timid riders who prefer to do their cantering astride wooden horses, while live donkeys and goat carriages are favored by the brave. Toy booths full of bright wares enliven the scene, and often tempt a

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MIGHTY MINYA KONKA, WHICH FEW MEN HAVE SEEN

Jagged glaciers descend from the numerous peaks of this snow-clad giant near the China-Tibet border. Its cloud-veiled summit, according to news dispatches from Shanghai, has been reached for the first time by a party of American explorers. This photograph, taken by a National Geographic Society Expedition in 1929, reveals at close range this mountain which reaches an elevation close to 25,000 feet—higher than any peak in North or in South America.

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Minya Konka, Snow-Clad Giant of the China-Tibet Borderland

TWO intrepid American explorers have made the first ascent of Minya Konka, snow-mantled peak near the China-Tibet border, according to a recent report from China.

This huge, almost inaccessible mountain, one of the world's highest summits outside of the Himalayas, has been seen by only a few white men. It was first definitely located, mapped, and photographed (see illustration page 2) in 1929 by an expedition of the National Geographic Society under the leadership of Dr. Joseph F. Rock.

Many of Its Neighbors over 20,000 Feet

Many travelers from the east have penetrated the mountain districts of western China and visited Tatsienlu, Szechwan Province, great border gateway to Tibet, but only three or four have ventured farther into the almost unknown region of sky-piercing mountain peaks.

Minya Konka is the dominant peak of the Minya Konka range. It had been seen by only one white man previous to Dr. Rock's visit. Dr. Rock photographed every peak of the range, mapped its jagged slopes, and explored them for plants, birds and animals.

He found many peaks in the range rising to an altitude of more than 20,000 feet, and reported to the National Geographic Society that in his opinion Minya Konka itself was close to 25,000 feet high.

Dr. Rock was assisted by guides furnished by a "Living Buddha" of a nearby lama monastery. The region is so effectively surrounded by lofty mountains that it is cut off for six months of the year by snow-filled passes.

Somewhat Resembles Egyptian Pyramid

In his report to the National Geographic Society Dr. Rock wrote of his first view of Minya Konka:

"Suddenly, like a white promontory of clouds, we beheld the long-hidden Minya Konka rising close to 25,000 feet in sublime majesty.

"An immense snowy range extended from north to south, and peerless Minka Konka rose high above its sister peaks into a turquoise-blue sky. A truncated pyramid it is, with immense lateral buttresses flanked by an enormous glacier many miles in length. This glacier, in turn, is joined by another coming directly from Minya Konka itself.

"The scenery was superb. Indeed, words fail to describe this marvelous panorama, which, until I came, no white man had viewed from such close range. Seen from my vantage point, Minya Konka appears as a triangular peak not unlike one of the pyramids of Egypt. A light, transparent veil of clouds here enshrouded the very apex of the peak, allowing the contours to be seen.

"The walls of Minya Konka are of a blackish gray rock and are apparently granite, as is the entire Djesi Valley, which extends from the northern end of the range to Tatsienlu.

"One of the finest peaks overlooking the head of Riuchi Valley and also the Djesi Pass is an enormous snowy mass of great beauty, Reddomain Solo, 23,000 feet in height. This had been mistaken by the missionaries of Tatsienlu for the

UMI

franc or two from a small purse. Sand-pits and swings, generously scattered throughout the gardens, enjoy a never-waning popularity, and hoop-rolling is pursued with grace and charm along the smooth paths of the park.

Punch and Judy shows (*guignols*) play to appreciative audiences at the Avenue Marigny and Champs Elysées corner in the afternoon, and cater to that taste for the drama inherent in every Parisian.

Sidewalk attractions of a different nature are the street fairs which hold the attention of young and old every spring in Paris. For weeks before and after Easter, children accompanied by their parents marvel anew at the wonders of the side shows, and consume amazing quantities of nougat and gingerbread.

Holy Week brings the curious "Foire aux Jambons" (ham and sausage fair), followed by the "Foire à la Ferraillé" (peddlers' market), held in the Boulevard Richard-Lenoir. The annual "Foire aux Pains d'Epice" (gingerbread fair) takes place after Easter in the Place de la Nation, and the medieval "Foire de St. Germain" occupies the Place St. Sulpice at the beginning of May.

The Tuileries Gardens, laid out in the reign of Louis XIV, also offer inducements to the Parisian young. There, under the surveillance of the marble river gods surrounding the fountain, future admirals race their sailboats. "Yachting," as this is called in the French capital, is even more popular in the Luxembourg, the only remaining Renaissance gardens in Paris. In this favorite Left-Bank recreation park, model yachts may be rented for a small fee to be sailed in the octagonal fountain.

Note: See also "Armistice Day and the American Battle Fields," *National Geographic Magazine*, November, 1929; "Through the Back Doors of France," July, 1923; and "Our Friends, the French," November, 1918.

Bulletin No. 1, December 19, 1932.

© *Photograph by Ewing Galloway*

BENEATH THE ARC DE TRIOMPHE LIES THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER OF FRANCE

This noble monument, in the heart of Paris, has witnessed the might, the glory and the reverence of France. It looks down the Champs Elysées, the famous boulevard of parades, the "Pennsylvania Avenue" of the French capital. The Champs Elysées is literally the Elysian Fields of the youth of Paris, for along its busy parkways one sees happy youngsters riding merry-go-rounds, playing in sand-pits, swinging, or patronizing the gayly decorated toy booths.

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Three Hundred Years of Maryland's Charter

MARYLAND, "The Old Line State," this month is observing the 300th anniversary of the signing of its provincial charter by King Charles I.

In connection with this historic occasion Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor, President of the National Geographic Society, and a resident of Maryland for many years, describes a pilgrimage to the "ghost town" of St. Marys, where the colonization of Maryland began.

Explored by Captain John Smith

"From tiny St. Marys, where the colonists of the *Ark* and the *Dove* established the first community in the world where Protestant and Catholic could worship in friendship together, to the mountains of western Maryland, where George Washington, fighting the Indians, gained his first military experience, Maryland unfolds a continuous panorama of colonial landmarks and scenes sacred and momentous in our national life," Dr. Grosvenor writes.

"It is impossible definitely to fix the date when white men first saw what is now Maryland. But certainly the Chesapeake Bay region was carefully explored by Captain John Smith, of Jamestown, in 1608. In that year he went up one side of the bay and down the other, ascending the rivers and inlets as he pushed onward. He visited what is now the site of Baltimore and sailed up the Patapsco River. He also went up the Potomac as far, at least, as Indian Head.

"After Virginia had refused to receive Sir George Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore, unless he took the oath of spiritual allegiance to the King of England, he went back to London and asked the king for a part of the unsettled region north of the Potomac River. This was granted him, and also a charter (which he wrote himself) that entitled him to set up a palatinate, with the most ample rights and privileges ever conferred by a sovereign of England.

"Under it, all that the Crown retained was feudal supremacy. Two Indian arrows and a fifth of the gold and silver produced were the sole annual tribute required as a gesture of fealty to the king. Beyond that, the Proprietor was given sovereign powers and the colonists were to retain all the rights of Englishmen.

First Name Was "Crescentia"

"Impressed by the crescent form of the southern boundary of the territory granted him by his friend Charles I, Lord Baltimore decided to call it Crescentia. The king, however, wanted to honor his wife, Queen Henrietta Maria, and Maryland the colony became.

"Maryland had its beginnings between the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay, and the events that transpired in that peninsula have had such a vital bearing on the destiny of the United States and the course of human history that one needs to journey hither to understand the rôle of this fine old State in the making of America.

"St. Marys was the site chosen by Leonard Calvert for the first settlement. Here he bought 30 miles from the Indian king, with a quantity of axes, hoes and broadcloth, and the colonists—20 'gentlemen' and 300 artisans, half Catholic and half Protestant—disembarked.

"The situation of their new home had been wisely chosen. It lay in the midst of fertile fields, already cultivated by the Indians and ready for the plow. So provident was Calvert's management that the very first autumn the new colonists had grain enough to send a shipload to New England to be exchanged for salt codfish.

No Religious Restrictions

"While as yet there was no spot in Europe or America where men's religious convictions were too sacred to be invaded by tests of state or assailed by the forces of bigotry, Lord Baltimore's first order to his colonists was that there should be no differences on account of religion. And it was Maryland which laid early and continued emphasis on the complete separation of the State and the Church until that principle became a cornerstone of national policy.

"One climbs reverently the bluff that thrusts its way out into the placid, blue waters of the nearly-a-mile-wide river.

"To-day, all that is left of the mulberry tree, under which Governor Calvert negotiated with the Indians for their lands, and upon which the public notices seem to have been posted, is the wood in the pulpit, altar, and desks of the little Trinity Episcopal Church. The fine obelisk erected by a grateful State to the memory of Leonard Calvert stands on the site of the old tree.

"Governor Calvert advised his brother, Lord Baltimore, that he had caused a stockade

UMI

Minya Konka, which is, however, visible from the Djesi Pass, but only on perfectly clear days, and even then only a small part of its apex proper can be seen."

Note: For the log of Dr. Rock's expedition and natural color photographs of this remote section of China see: "The Glories of Minya Konka," *National Geographic Magazine*, October, 1930. References to other expeditions of Dr. Rock in western China will be found in "Konka Risumgongba, Holy Mountain of the Outlaws," July, 1931; "Seeking the Mountains of Mystery," February, 1930; "Life among the Lamas of Choni," November, 1928; "Through the Great River Trenches of Asia," August, 1926; and "The Land of the Yellow Lama," April, 1925.

Bulletin No. 2, December 19, 1932.

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AN EXPEDITION PREPARES TO LEAVE FOR THE MINYA KONKA RANGE

There is much of the excitement and confusion of a circus on moving day in the last minute assembling of horses and yaks, and the checking of loads about to be packed onto saddle racks. The protected courtyard of the China Inland Mission at Tatsienlu (central Szechwan province) served as a "take off" place for the first expedition to locate definitely and to photograph the stupendous Minya Konka range in 1929. This expedition, under the leadership of Dr. Joseph F. Rock, was sponsored by the National Geographic Society.

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The Lakes of Killarney, Ireland's Most Famed Beauty Spot

THE Lakes of Killarney, famed in song and story, have been presented by their owner, an American, to the Irish Free State Government. The Killarney estate comprises some 100,000 acres.

Killarney's lakes form a cluster of blue opals set in the emerald jewel that is County Kerry, Ireland's southwestern corner. William Wordsworth hailed the region as "the most beautiful spot in the three kingdoms."

Home of Wild Swan and Red Deer

The ancient kingdom of Kerry surrounding the three principal Killarney lakes is strangely wild and beautiful. Here are remains, such as they are, of the Druids. Here, too, are the earliest Christian relics in Ireland. It is a county of semi-tropical mosses, ever freshened by the humid breath of the Gulf Stream, and of plants that are found nowhere else than in Portugal.

Kerry was the home of Irish classical learning, more Latin and Greek having been known in Kerry than in any other part of Ireland. Its people are grave and courteous and have pleasant voices. The wild swan is more abundant here than elsewhere in Ireland, and here roam the last of the wild red deer. The lakes teem with salmon and trout, and along the shoreland, or on the tiny islands, woodcock and snipe abound.

The name Killarney means "Church of the sloe bushes." Each of the three larger lakes has a local name: the Upper or McCarthy Moore's Lake; the Middle or Torc Lake; the Lower or Lough Leane. Many of the rocks in Lough Leane are called after the chieftain of the district, the O'Donoghue of the Glens. O'Donoghue's House was blown down during a storm, but his table, prison, pigeon house and library still survive.

Tennyson and "The Princess"

Near the picturesque little town of Killarney, on the Kenmare Road, rise the ruins of Muckross Abbey, one of the finest Norman abbeys in Ireland, with a somber yew tree in its cloisters 60 feet in height. Along the shore of Lough Leane is another striking, vine-clad stronghold—Ross Castle, in the vicinity of which Tennyson wrote part of "The Princess."

Close by Ross Castle lies beautiful Innisfallen Island, in Lough Leane, which Macaulay called "the gem of Killarney; not a reflex of heaven, but a bit of heaven itself." Its greatest charms are its holly groves and red-berried rowan trees.

In the Gap of Dunloe, which pours the brawling Loe River down into Killarney's Lakes, the stream expands into little lakes of water remarkable for their blackness.

An Irish Guide and His Bugle

When visitors ascend the pass to the Gap of Dunloe from Kate Kearney's Cottage the guide walks along beside the ponies, reciting verses of poetry about Killarney, and when the gloomy gap is reached he makes the mountain walls of Golden MacGillicuddy's Reeks echo with Irish airs played on his bugle. He explains that he does this as did his father before him.

Moeroun Castle, on the road to Cork, is the birthplace of Admiral Sir Wil-

UMI

to be built, which was 120 yards square, with four flanks. On it he had mounted 'one piece of ordnance and six murderers.' These 'murderers' were very small cannon for close-range firing.

"One of them, pock-marked with the rust of three centuries, is now mounted in the statehouse grounds at Annapolis, and others are in the keeping of Georgetown University, at Washington, as are the old statehouse bell, the council table, and other relics of the ancient little capital."

Note: See also: "A Maryland Pilgrimage," *National Geographic Magazine*, February, 1927.

Students interested in the development of American States and cities will find the following articles helpful in the preparation of project papers or exhibits:

Alabama	December, 1931	New Hampshire	September, 1931
Arizona	January, 1929	New York City	November, 1930
California	June, 1929	North Carolina	May, 1926
Colorado	July, 1932	Ohio	May, 1932
Florida	January, 1930	Pennsylvania	May, 1919
Georgia	September, 1926	Philadelphia	December, 1932
Illinois	May, 1931	San Francisco	April, 1932
Louisiana	April, 1930	Texas	June, 1928
Maryland	February, 1927	Vermont	March, 1927
Massachusetts	March, 1920	Virginia	April, 1929
Michigan	March, 1928	Washington, D. C.	November, 1931
Missouri	April, 1923		

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THE "GHOST TOWN" OF ST. MARYS, WHERE MARYLAND BEGAN

Near the tall monument stood the old mulberry tree under which Leonard Calvert signed a treaty with the Indians in 1634, giving his colonists the right to settle on 30 miles of the peninsula that runs up from the meeting place of the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay. The square stones mark the corners of the first statehouse of Maryland. St. Marys is about 80 miles from Washington, D. C.

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Too Much Water Halts Panama Canal Traffic

FLOOD waters rushing down the Chagres River, chief feeder of the Panama Canal, last month forced the closing of the Canal to traffic for a day. Thirteen of the fourteen floodgates at Gatun Dam were opened to take care of the overflow. This is the largest number of these emergency water exits needed since the Canal was opened to traffic on August 15, 1914.

The chief casualty of the flood was, oddly enough, construction equipment being used to build the new Madden Dam, designed to hold in check the turbulent Chagres River. This $15,500,000 project, which will serve both as a curb on floods and as an additional reservoir of water for unusually dry seasons, will be completed in June, 1935.

Busy Artery of Commerce

The Panama Canal is a gateway of the seas. Merchants send their products through it as medieval traders sent their caravans through guarded gates of fortified cities. One can see the traffic coming through the Panama "gate" and tell much of the countries from which the goods come.

From Argentina's plains come meat, bone fertilizer, and tankers with blood; from Brazil, coffee; from Mexico, crude-oil; from the West Indies, sugar; from the Far East, bamboo, tea, peanuts, fireworks, gallstones, hemp, coconut oil, and rice; from Australia, cold storage products, beef, casein, cheese, mutton, pork, tallow; from California, fruit, oil, apricot seeds, borax, onions, walnuts; from Washington and Oregon, lumber and salmon; from Vancouver, wheat; from Chile, nitrates and iodine; from Peru, guano; and from the South Seas, copra.

In the language of engineers the Panama Canal is not a canal at all; it is a "water bridge." It is said to be the first great "water bridge" in history. The engineers' term does describe the Canal more accurately than its popular title. From the Colon entrance, guarded from "northers" by breakwaters, it is about seven miles to Gatun Locks. At the lock gate to the right of an incoming steamer is the great Gatun Dam, more than a mile and a half long. It is this dam which raises the Chagres River to the dignity of a "water bridge."

Ships "Climb" Height of 7-Story Building

Through the vast, artificial lake, so formed, steamers plow 24 miles until they reach the Gaillard Cut, severing the mountainous backbone of North, Central and South America. In the eight-mile Gaillard Cut the most dramatic excavation work occurred.

At the Pedro Miguel Locks (called "Peter Magill" locks by the Americans), the ships step down from their "water bridge." Crossing the mile-long Miraflores Lake they reach the two Miraflores locks and sea level. It is eight miles from here to deep water in the Pacific. Gatun Dam raises the "water bridge" to the height of a seven-story building.

Note: For additional references and photographs see: "Flying the World's Longest Air Mail Route," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1930; "To Bogotá and Back by Air," May, 1928; "How Latin America Looks from the Air," October, 1927; "Who Treads Our Trails?," September, 1927; "The Jungles of Panama," February, 1922; "The Dream Ship," January, 1921; and "The Panama Canal," February, 1914.

Bulletin No. 5, December 19, 1932.

UMI

liam Penn, the father of the founder of Pennsylvania. Gougane Barra, on the wild borderland between County Kerry and County Cork, is a place of dark and beautiful aspect. Here, in the steep mountains, broods a lake like black marble—whose severity is relieved by trembling silver rivers sliding down into the dark water.

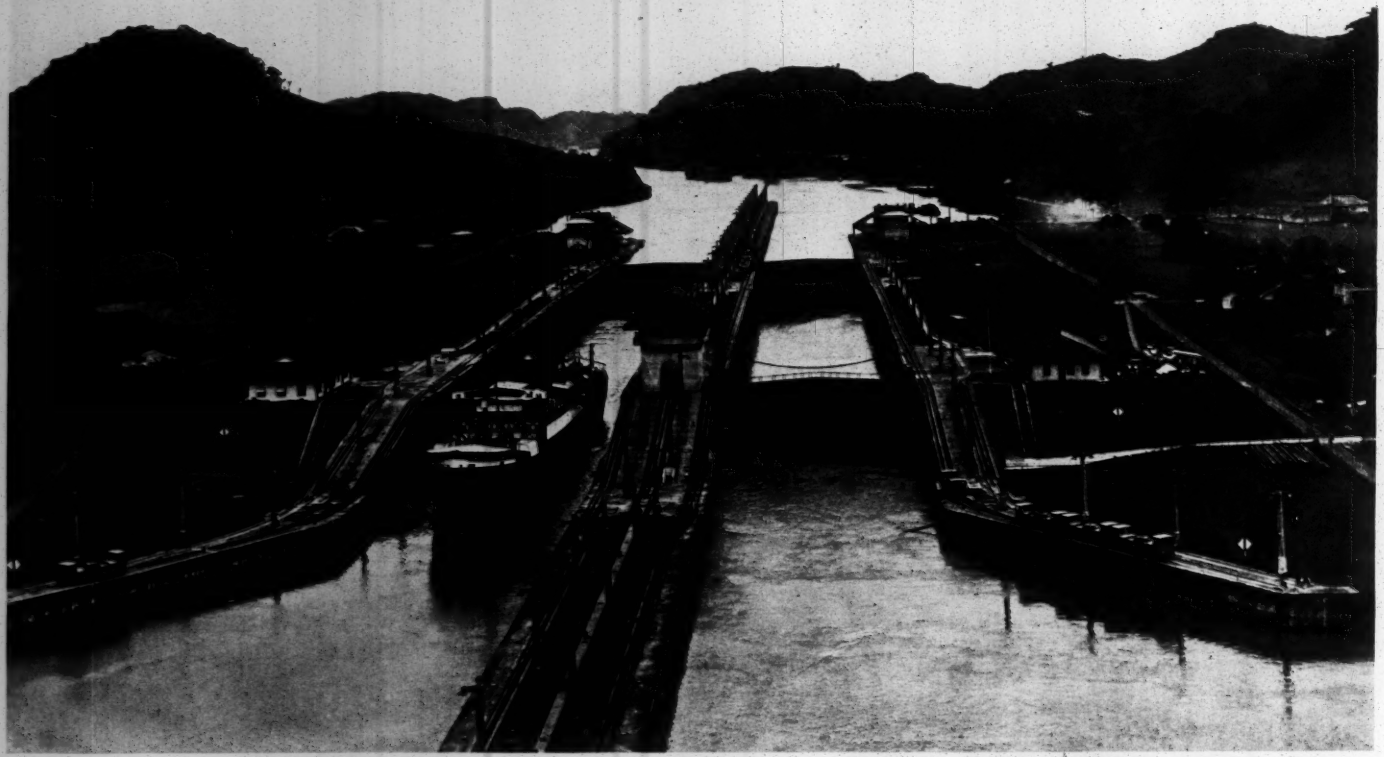
Note: See also "Ireland, the Rock Whence I Was Hewn," *National Geographic Magazine*, March, 1927.

Bulletin No. 4, December 19, 1932.

© *Photograph by A. W. Cutler*

A BIT OF KILLARNEY IN ONE OF ITS STERNER MOODS

A narrow road winds through the Gap of Dunloe, and on a cloudy day the rocky hillsides have a gloomy and forbidding appearance. But generally this Irish lake district lives up to the opinion of Wordsworth, who says: "In point of scenery this is the finest portion of the British Isles."



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LOOKING TOWARD THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE FROM PEDRO MIGUEL LOCKS, PANAMA CANAL

Just around the bend in the distance the Rio Chagres, chief source of water for the Panama Canal, empties into the big ditch. Excess water is run off at Gatun Dam, on the Atlantic side of the Canal. In the background winds Gaillard (formerly Culebra) Cut, out of which U. S. engineers had to remove more than a hundred million cubic yards of earth and rock. Note the little electric "mules," or locomotives, that tow huge ships through the locks.